

Message Text

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USSALTTWO, MOSCOW FOR AMB PAUL C. WARNKE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 22 PRESS ROUNDUP

1. CHRISTOPHER S. WREN OF NEW YORK TIMES, REPORTING FROM MOSCOW, SAID ACDA DIRECTOR WARNKE ON ARRIVAL IN THE RUSSIAN CAPITAL HAD OFFERED BRIGHTER PICTURE ON SALT THAN GROMYKO HAD ADVANCED AFTER HIS TALKS IN GENEVA LAST MONTH WITH VANCE. WREN, NOTING THAT WARNKE TOLD NEWSMEN HE WOULD NOT BE DISCUSSING DEADLOCK OVER NEW SALT PACT, OBSERVED THAT BREZHNEV AND GROMYKO "HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY MORE PESSIMISTIC ABOUT MOVEMENT TOWARD NEW ACCORD, CONTENDING THAT U.S. HAS NOT CEASED TRYING TO GAIN ADVANTAGE OVER SOVIET UNION." WARNKE IS HEADING U.S. DELEGATION IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON INDIAN OCEAN ARMS LIMITATION, WREN SAID, POINTING OUT SOVIET UNION FOR SEVERAL YEARS HAS ACCUSED U.S. OF EXPANDING ITS MILITARY PRESENCE THERE. "MOSCOW," HE SAID, "HAS CONTENDED THAT PRESENCE OF SOVIET FLEET IN AREA DOES NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTRADICT ITS CALL FOR INDIAN OCEAN TO BECOME 'ZONE OF PEACE.' TODAY, MR. WARNKE CHALLENGED NOTION OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RIVALRY IN REGION. 'I REALLY DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY BASIS FOR SUCH CONCLUSION,' HE SAID OF SOVIET CHARGE. 'AT PRESENT TIME THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY COMPETITION IN INDIAN OCEAN. WE'D LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.' MR. WARNKE DID NOT INDICATE WHAT PROPOSALS AMERICANS MIGHT OFFER TO PREVENT ARMS RACE AND HE CAUTIONED AGAINST HOPES FOR IMMEDIATE PROGRESS."

2. NEW YORK TIMES, REPORTING ON BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO PARIS, SAID SOVIET PRESIDENT URGED FRANCE TO JOIN TALKS ON FORCE REDUCTIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WHICH FRANCE HAS BOYCOTTED FROM START. BREZHNEV REPORTEDLY SAID THERE HAD BEEN "NO SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS" ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION. TIMES SAID THIS "APPEARED TO BE LESS HOPEFUL THAN STATEMENT MADE TODAY BY PAUL C. WARNKE, ARMS NEGOTIATOR, ON ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW FOR TALKS ON INDIAN OCEAN DEMILITARIZATION. HE SAID PROGRESS WAS MADE AT GENEVA LAST MONTH AND GENERAL UNDERSTANDING ON FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS WAS BEGINNING TO EMERGE."

3. REUTER REPORTING FROM GENEVA SAID U.S. OPPOSED ANY MOVE TO EXTEND INTERNATIONAL TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM SEABED TO COVER CONVENTIONAL ARMS AS WELL. U.S. DELEGATE LEON SLOSS OF ACDA ADDRESSED 45-NATION CONFERENCE REVIEWING FIVE-YEAR-OLD TREATY PROHIBITING SEABEDS NUCLEAR WEAPONS. SLOSS, REUTER SAID, TOLD CONFERENCE U.S. SAW NO DANGER OF ARMS RACE ON OCEAN FLOOR. "HIS STATEMENTS WERE SEEN AS WARNING THAT U.S. DID NOT CONSIDER REVIEW CONFERENCE FORUM FOR ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN EXISTING TREATY," REUTER SAID. "MR. SLOSS'S REMARKS CONTRASTED SHARPLY WITH THOSE MADE YESTERDAY (JUNE 20) BY UNCLASSIFIED

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U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM WHO, IN MESSAGE TO CONFERENCE, CALLED FOR TREATY BANNING ALL WEAPONS, NOT ONLY NUCLEAR, FROM SEABED." REUTER SAID CALLS FOR EXTENSION OF EXISTING SEABED TREATY TO COVER CONVENTIONAL ARMS ARE EXPECTED TO BE HEARD FROM SEVERAL NATIONS AT CONFERENCE. SOVIET UNION, REUTER POINTED OUT, IS KNOWN TO FAVOR TOTAL BAN. U.S. HAS SAID SUCH BAN WOULD PROHIBIT IMPORTANT SELF-DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS SUCH AS ANTI-SUBMARINE WARNING DEVICES, REUTER ADDED.

4. WALTER PINCUS OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT OVER PAST EIGHT YEARS MONKEYS HAVE BEEN DOSED IN LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS WITH NEUTRON RADIATION OF UP TO 10,000 RADS TO DETERMINE LEVELS AT WHICH THEY COULD NO LONGER WORK AND AT WHICH THEY WOULD DIE. HE QUOTED DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AS SAYING THAT NO TESTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH HUMANS. FROM TESTS ON MONKEYS AND OTHER ANIMALS, DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY NOTED IN STATEMENT, "ESTIMATES OF BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS" ON HUMANS FROM PROPOSED LANCE NEUTRON WARHEAD "HAVE BEEN SYNTHESIZED." DEFENSE SCIENTIST TOLD PINCUS HE BELIEVES CASUALTIES FROM NEURTON WARHEAD ATTACK WOULD RECOVER AT APPROXIMATELY SAME RATE AS THOSE JAPANESE WHO SURVIVED HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI ATOMIC BOMBS. ALL TEN MONKEYS INVOLVED IN RECENT SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS AT ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE EVENTUALLY DIED FROM THEIR RADIATION EXPOSURE BUT SURVIVAL TIME, ACCORDING TO REPORT, "RANGED FROM SEVEN TO 132 HOURS." ONE SCIENTIST

INVOLVED IN EXPERIMENTS SAID BECAUSE OF RANGE OF RESPONSES, THERE WAS NO "CERTAINTY" THAT RESULTS IN MONKEYS WOULD BE DIRECTLY TRANSLATABLE TO HUMANS.

5. GEORGE C. WILSON OF WASHINGTON POST SAID HOUSE AND SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEES FOR FIRST TIME HAVE DIRECTED PENTAGON TO STEP UP EFFORTS TO DEVELOP CRUISE MISSILE WITH NON-NUCLEAR WARHEAD FOR EUROPE. "IDEA," HE SAID, "IS TO HAVE ACCURATE CRUISE MISSILE ON GROUND IN UNCLASSIFIED

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WEST GERMANY TO BLUNT WARSAW PACT ATTACK WITHOUT RESORTING TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS." HE SAID SOVIET LEADERS HAVE EXPRESSED ALARM ABOUT WEST GERMANY RECEIVING AMERICAN-MADE CRUISE MISSILES THAT CAN CARRY EITHER NON-NUCLEAR OR NUCLEAR WARHEADS, "ARGUING THAT LATTER WOULD POSE STRATEGIC THREAT WHICH MUST BE COVERED IN ANY U.S.-SOVIET STRATEGIC ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH NON-NUCLEAR MISSILE BASED IN WEST GERMANY WOULD BE LESS WORRISOME THAN NUCLEAR ONE TO RUSSIANS, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO TELL WHAT WARHEAD WAS BECAUSE BOTH VERSIONS OF MISSILE LOOK SAME FROM OUTSIDE." CRUISE MISSILE EYED FOR NATO ROLE IS TOMAHAWK BEING FLIGHT TESTED BY NAVY. HOUSE AND SENATE CONFEREES AGREED ON COMPROMISE MONEY BILL AUTHORIZING 349 MILLION DOLLARS FOR DEVELOPING CRUISE MISSILES THAT COULD BE FIRED FROM GROUND, FROM AIRPLANES AND FROM SHIPS AND SUBMARINES. CONFERENCE REPORT DIRECTS PENTAGON TO PUT HIGH PRIORITY ON BUILDING ANTI-SHIP VERSION OF TOMAHAWK FOR NAVY, AND INSTRUCTS AIR FORCE TO PERFECT SHORT-RANGE VERSION OF ITS AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE BEFORE PLUNGING AHEAD WITH LONGER-RANGE WEAPON, WILSON REPORTED.

6. ROBERT KAYLOR OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL QUOTED SOURCES AS SAYING HOUSE MEMBERS OF CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REFUSED TO HALT PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP DEADLY NERVE GAS BECAUSE THEY FEAR SOVIET UNION'S LARGE CHEMICAL WARFARE CAPABILITY. CONFERENCE ACTION WHICH MUST GET FINAL APPROVAL FROM BOTH HOUSES, PROBABLY WILL END EFFORTS TO STOP ARMY AND NAVY DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NERVE GAS WEAPONS. KAYLOR SAID "ALTHOUGH ADMINISTRATION HAS RENEWED EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE OUTRIGHT BAN WITH SOVIETS ON CHEMICAL WARFARE, NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN REPORTED BY U.S.-SOVIET WORKING GROUP STUDYING QUESTION." KAYLOR SAID SOURCES TOLD HIM IT WAS FEAR OF LARGE SOVIET CAPABILITY THAT PROMPTED UNCLASSIFIED

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HOUSE MEMBERS TO REFUSE TO HALT U.S. PROGRAMS. "BECAUSE MONEY TO START WORK ON PRODUCTION FACILITIES HAS BEEN CUT FROM BUDGETS IN PAST THREE YEARS, EVEN WITH CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE TO CERTIFY WEAPONS WERE IN

NATIONAL INTEREST," KAYLOR SAID.

7. BALTIMORE SUN REPORTED CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS DELAYED SUPPLIES OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM THAT SOUTH AFRICA SAYS IT URGENTLY NEEDS FOR RESEARCH. SUN SAID U.S. OFFICIALS EMPHASIZED THAT HOLDUP IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO NON-POLITICAL FACTORS, AND THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED ON SOUTH AFRICA'S 27-MONTH-OLD APPLICATION FOR 33 POUNDS OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM FOR ITS RESEARCH REACTOR, SAFARI ONE, AT PELINDABA. VANCE

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